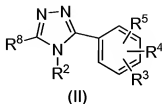


Amendments to the Claims

1.- 15. (Canceled)

16. (Withdrawn) A compound of structural formula II:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; wherein

each n is 0, 1, or 2;

each p is 0, 1, or 2;

R⁸ is naphthyl or heteroaryl wherein heteroaryl is selected from the group consisting of

pyridyl,

thienyl,

furyl,

pyrazolyl,

thiazolyl,

oxazolyl,

imidazolyl,

indolyl,

benzothiophenyl,

benzofuryl, and

benzimidazolyl;

in which naphthyl and heteroaryl are substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R³, R⁴, and R⁵;

R² is methyl or cyclopropyl;

R³, R⁴, and R⁵ are each independently selected from the group consisting of

hydrogen,

formyl,

C₁₋₆ alkyl,

C₂₋₆ alkenyl,

(CH₂)_n-aryl,

(CH₂)_n-heteroaryl,

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(CH₂)_n-heterocyclyl,
(CH₂)_nC₃₋₇ cycloalkyl,
halogen,
OR⁷,
(CH₂)_nN(R⁷)₂,
cyano,
(CH₂)_nCO₂R⁷,
NO₂,
(CH₂)_nNR⁷SO₂R⁶,
(CH₂)_nSO₂N(R⁷)₂,
(CH₂)_nS(O)_pR⁶,
(CH₂)_nSO₂OR⁷,
(CH₂)_nNR⁷C(O)N(R⁷)₂,
(CH₂)_nC(O)N(R⁷)₂,
(CH₂)_nNR⁶C(O)R⁶,
(CH₂)_nNR⁶CO₂R⁷,
O(CH₂)_nC(O)N(R⁷)₂,
CF₃,
CH₂CF₃,
OCF₃,
OCHCF₂, and
OCH₂CF₃;

wherein aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, and heterocyclyl are unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₄ alkyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, and C₁₋₄ alkoxy; and wherein any methylene (CH₂) carbon atom in R³, R⁴, and R⁵ is unsubstituted or substituted with one to two groups independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, and C₁₋₄ alkyl; or two substituents when on the same methylene (CH₂) carbon atom are taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a cyclopropyl group;

each R⁶ is independently selected from the group consisting of

C₁₋₈ alkyl,
(CH₂)_n-aryl,
(CH₂)_n-heteroaryl, and
(CH₂)_nC₃₋₇ cycloalkyl;

wherein alkyl and cycloalkyl are unsubstituted or substituted with one to five substituents independently selected from halogen, oxo, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ alkylthio, hydroxy, amino; and

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aryl and heteroaryl are unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from cyano, halogen, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C₁₋₄ alkyl, and C₁₋₄ alkoxy;

or two R⁶ groups together with the atom to which they are attached form a 5- to 8-membered mono- or bicyclic ring system optionally containing an additional heteroatom selected from O, S, and NC₁₋₄ alkyl; and

each R⁷ is hydrogen or R⁶.

17. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 16 wherein R² is methyl.

18. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 16 wherein R⁸ is indolyl or pyrazolyl substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R³.

19. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 18 wherein R² is methyl.

20. (Withdrawn) A compound which is selected from the group consisting of:

4-methyl-3,5-bis[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

4-methyl-3-[4-(methylthio)-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

4-methyl-3-(4-pentylphenyl)-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

3-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

3-(1-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

4-[5-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl]-1-methyl-1*H*-indole;

4-{4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl}-1-methyl-1*H*-indole;

3-(2-bromophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

3-(7-chloro-1-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

4-[4-methyl-5-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-4-yl)-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl]phenol;

3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

3-[2,4-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

3-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

3-(2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(methylthio)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-(2-methylphenyl)-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

3-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-[5-(2-chlorophenyl)-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl]-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

4-[5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl]-1-methyl-1*H*-indole;

4-methyl-3-(2-methyl-1-naphthyl)-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

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3-(1,4-dichloro-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(4-chloro-1-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(1-fluoro-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
N-methyl-2-{4-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl}-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl} naphthalen-1-amine;
3,5-bis-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-[2-(ethylthio)phenyl]-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2-cyclopropylphenyl)-5-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-[(2-chloro-4-(ethylthio)phenyl)]-5-(2-fluorophenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-[(2-difluoromethoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-5-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-[(2-difluoromethoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
4-methyl-3-(2-phenoxyphenyl)-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
4-methyl-3-[2-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
4-methyl-3-[2-(prop-2-yn-1-yloxy)phenyl]-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-{2-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]phenyl}-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-[2-(difluoromethoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2-ethoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
4-methyl-3-(2-propoxyphenyl)-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3,5-bis(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3,5-bis(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(3-chloro-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(5-chloro-6-methoxy-1-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-[2-(4-chlorophenoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-[4-(4-chlorophenoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-[4-chloro-5-(2-chlorophenyl)-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl]-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
4-methyl-3-(2,4,6-trichloro-1-naphthyl)-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2-bromophenyl)-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-(2-methylphenyl)-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2-bromophenyl)-4-methyl-5-(2-methylphenyl)-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
4-methyl-3-(2-methylphenyl)-5-[2-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
3-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-cyclopropyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;

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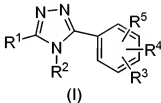
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3-(4-chloro-3-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-4-methyl-5-[(2-(methylthio)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
 3-[2-(4-chlorophenoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[(2-(methylthio)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
 3-[2-(4-chlorophenoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[(2-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
 3-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
 3-(2-bromophenyl)-5-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
 3-[2-(4-fluorophenoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole;
 3-(2-chlorophenyl)-5-[2-chloro-3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole; and
 4-[4-methyl-5-(1,2,3-trimethyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl]phenol;
 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

21. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound in accordance with Claim 16 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

22. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound in accordance with Claim 20 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

23. (New) A compound of structural formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof useful for treating a condition responsive to inhibition of 11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase-1 in a mammal in need thereof



wherein

each n is 0, 1, or 2;

each p is 0, 1, or 2;

R¹ is aryl or heteroaryl wherein heteroaryl is selected from the group consisting of

pyridyl,

thienyl,

furyl,

pyrazolyl,

thiazolyl,

oxazolyl,

imidazolyl,

indolyl,

benzothiophenyl,

benzofuryl, and

benzimidazolyl;

in which aryl and heteroaryl are substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R³, R⁴, and R⁵;

R² is methyl;

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R³, R⁴, and R⁵ are each independently selected from the group consisting of

hydrogen,
formyl,
C₁₋₆ alkyl,
C₂₋₆ alkenyl,
(CH₂)_n-aryl,
(CH₂)_n-heteroaryl,
(CH₂)_n-heterocyclyl,
(CH₂)_nC₃₋₇ cycloalkyl,
halogen,
OR⁷,
(CH₂)_nN(R⁷)₂,
cyano,
(CH₂)_nCO₂R⁷,
NO₂,
(CH₂)_nNR⁷SO₂R⁶,
(CH₂)_nSO₂N(R⁷)₂,
(CH₂)_nS(O)_pR⁶,
(CH₂)_nSO₂OR⁷,
(CH₂)_nNR⁷C(O)N(R⁷)₂,
(CH₂)_nC(O)N(R⁷)₂,
(CH₂)_nNR⁶C(O)R⁶,
(CH₂)_nNR⁶CO₂R⁷,
O(CH₂)_nC(O)N(R⁷)₂,
CF₃,
CH₂CF₃,
OCF₃,
OCHCF₂, and
OCH₂CF₃;

wherein aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, and heterocyclyl are unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₄ alkyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, and C₁₋₄ alkoxy; and wherein any methylene (CH₂) carbon atom in R³, R⁴, and R⁵ is unsubstituted or substituted with one to two groups independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, and C₁₋₄ alkyl; or two substituents when on the same methylene (CH₂) carbon atom are taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a cyclopropyl group;

each R⁶ is independently selected from the group consisting of

C₁₋₈ alkyl,
C₂₋₄ alkynyl,
(CH₂)_n-aryl,
(CH₂)_n-heteroaryl, and

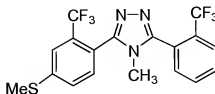
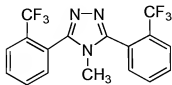
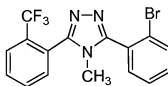
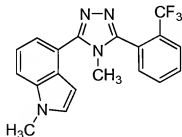
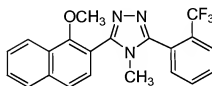
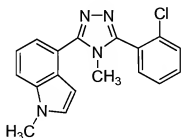
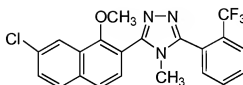
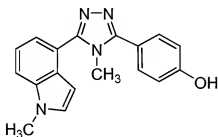
$(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{C}_{3-7}$ cycloalkyl;

wherein alkyl and cycloalkyl are unsubstituted or substituted with one to five substituents independently selected from halogen, oxo, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ alkylthio, hydroxy, and amino; and aryl and heteroaryl are unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from cyano, halogen, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C₁₋₄ alkyl, and C₁₋₄ alkoxy;

or two R⁶ groups together with the atom to which they are attached form a 5- to 8-membered mono- or bicyclic ring system optionally containing an additional heteroatom selected from O, S, and NC₀₋₄ alkyl;

each R⁷ is hydrogen or R⁶; and

wherein the compound of structural formula I is selected from the group consisting of:



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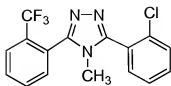
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and

